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MONDAY, JUNE 4, 1855.

THE COMMERCIAL RELATIONS OF CALIFORNIA AND THE ATLANTIC STATES.—The legitimate commerce between different countries consists in the exchange of products of the labor of the people of those countries. Thus an agricultural country may supply breadstuffs and provisions to a manufacturing one and receive payment for them in manufactured goods, as is the case between the United States and Great Britain. California has furnished gold to the Atlantic States, and these States have supplied her with food and manufactured goods. But it is a significant fact now being made apparent, that California will not only be able to feed her own people with her own agricultural products, but that she will have a surplus for exportation. When this happens, the Atlantic States will be cut off from the receipt of an annual amount of gold equivalent to the value of the agricultural products that they formerly sent to California. A correspondent of the New York Tribune, writing from San Francisco, says:

We have now a new feature in the California markets. It may be well for shippers in the Atlantic States to note the fact. Flour and grain of all kinds can be produced here, even with our high prices of labor, cheaper than they can be raised and transported here from New York. A cargo of Chili flour was sold yesterday for less than \$5 per bbl., after the duties have been paid, which are \$1.35 per barrel. Heretofore Chili has expected us to take her surplus flour, wheat, and barley, but we need them no longer. Good wheat is now selling for 14 cents per lb., barley for 1 cent per lb., and the best of superfine domestic flour for from \$6 to \$8 per bbl. There are more flouring mills than can be profitably employed, and many of them are manufacturing a superior article of flour. The country is full of breadstuffs and we are within three months of harvest of the most promising crop we have ever had. In September next I expect to see wheat selling in this city for 60 cent the bushel, and cargoes of it taken on board the clipper ships in our harbor for foreign markets. The Charmer, 1,500 tons burden, is now loading with wheat at \$16 per ton for New York, and will sail in about ten days. The Telegraph, same size and destination, is also loading with wheat and flour. The Morning Light will probably be put up for a similar cargo. The Comet is nearly full of hides, horns, and quicksilver. Several vessels are being loaded with grain and breadstuffs for Australia. But for these shipments, prices of many articles would become nearly or quite valueless.

This country seems to labor under a singular difficulty. We are burdened with plenty. If we undertake to produce any necessary of life we soon have it in such abundance that we scarcely know what to do with it. Our population is so small that we consume but little, so we must either ship the surplus or suffer it to waste. I had not supposed until recently that we should be able to export wheat, but I now think we can. Vessels here instead of going 6,000 miles to China for a return cargo will take freight from here at a low price, say \$10 per ton. At these rates, I do not see why, with our fertile soil and favorable climate, we may not successfully compete in the New York market with the wheat-growers west of the Mississippi.

I am well-satisfied there are many articles which California can produce for exportation besides gold.

The increasing ability of California to supply within her own borders and from her own soil the wants of her people is the chief reason why the annual receipts of gold in the Eastern States are diminishing. From this cause alone it is probable that the importation of gold to New York from California will continue to decline, and the people must prepare to meet this new state of things. Fewer foreign goods must be consumed and the imports of them diminished; more economical habits must be introduced, or else general bankruptcy will inevitably follow. We buy from abroad more than we can pay for. The shipment of gold to Europe increases while our supply from the mines is steadily decreasing. To some considerable extent this is attributable to the war in Europe, but there are reasons for it independent of the war, among which are the scarcity and high price of provisions in this country. War always induces a large demand for gold, and the interests of the Allies require that they should have enough for war purposes while cramping the home markets as little as possible. Thus far the amount in the English banks has continued to increase, but there has been an evident effort to set the current of gold from all quarters toward England. The French, Austrian, and English governments require large amounts of gold, and the loan guaranteed for Turkey was paid altogether in gold. It is to be remarked that the exports of gold hence, which were becoming more moderate with the hopes of peace, have suddenly increased and become more active than ever since the dissolution of the Vienna conference. We have the authority of the great Rothschild to the effect that nations at war must have gold, if not at one price, at another, and price is no object. If the English government attempts to maintain specie payments and carry on a long war at the same time, the Uni-

ted States must supply its quota of gold. The question to be solved, however, is, whether the large expenditures that will be necessary will not soon react, and the demand be equalized; or whether hoarding will not so formerly keep pace with the supply? For the coming year the sales of American produce to England will be very large, and there is hope that the diminished demand for provisions in California may be compensated by the wants of the countries that are at war in Europe, if that war shall continue and this country in the coming season is blessed with abundant crops of the different cereals. Our information is that in every portion of the Mississippi valley the breadth of land sown in wheat and oats, and planted in corn, very greatly exceeds, this year, that of any former one. It is said that in the State of Mississippi, if the season proves favorable, there will be Indian corn enough raised to supply the demand in that State without having to purchase as usual from the northwestern States. A bountiful harvest will materially reduce the price of grain, but that will benefit the country, by enabling the breadstuffs to be shipped abroad and thus regulate our foreign exchange by supplying in that way the deficiency of gold.

We shall be glad to hear often from the accomplished authoress of the following:

THE LAY OF THE FORSAKEN.

BY ERNESTINE.

And thou art gone!—
Hast left me here in solitude to mourn
Thine absence! Never more
Will thy dear voice break on my listening ear,
Sounding at the still hour of evensong
Like far-off music of a fairy bell,
Stealing into the chambers of my heart
And waking there a strain of melody
So wildly sweet it cannot pass away!
Never again will my eye catch the light,
Which, beaming from thy soul-lit eyes, oft wove
A spell of fairy beauty round my soul,
From which I never, never can awake.
Thou hast been like a sunbeam, yet a cloud,
Upon my way. Thy coming was as bright
As sunlight to a fading, drooping flower,
O'er which the desert's drear sirocco swept,
Bowling it, crushed and withered, to the earth.
Like the bright shadow of a "child of light,"
Thy spirit glided to my weary soul,
And raised my drooping spirit to its depth
Of untold sorrow to commune with thine.
My soul has but one image and one dream—
The former time, the latter is of thee.
Ah! would to God that we had never met,
For, from that hour, my life has been one long,
Long dream of thee. Thy spirit has entwined
About my own a strange dark spell I fear
Can never now be broken. Yet although
It is so dark oftentimes it sends a thrill
Of such strange gladness through my very heart
I sigh to think it must be torn asunder.
My eyelids droop with weeping, and my soul
Is dark within me. Hope's frail bark is wrecked
Upon the shoals in the dark fearful gulf
Of wild despair. No longer now to me
The future gleams with visions soft and bright
Of happiness. My soul is weary—lost
In the wild maze of "dark contending thoughts,"
Which, like strange phantoms, startle to my breast,
And drive from thence those golden dreams of bliss
That for long, long and weary months I've loved
So fondly, sadly, thus to cherish.

The stars are beaming brightly as of yore,
Their light so pure glides not my dreary way,
For all seems strangely desolate and lone.
Unheeded now the night-bird's plaintive song
Falls on mine ear, for thou, who taught'st me erst
Those notes to love, hast gone, and left me lone
As the sad warbler. Once it was not thus.
There was a time, whose memory is embalmed
And placed with sacred care within the heart's
Most pure and holy temple—a dear home,
When, nestled to thy side, with quiet joy
I've heard thee breathe thy low and earnest vows
Of love unchanging, or, in the serene
And silent intercourse of soul with soul,
Have listened to the full, harmonious throbs
Of thy high, loving heart. Alas! that e'er
The hour should come when I should doubt its truth!

This spell must now forever pass away!
I've loved thee—yes!—how deeply, purely loved!
This cannot, cannot be my destiny,
To lay the heart's rich treasures at thy feet,
Unseal the spirit's deepest, holiest fount,
And pour the hoarded gems of feeling pure
Upon one loved and worthy as I am;
To bow in meek submission to the will
Of one I almost deemed a god; to feel
All that the heart could give to thee was given,
Then have thee cast from thy spirit's shrine,
A worthless gift; the heart, once so true, cast back,
Spurned from the only home it sought, to learn
The bitter lesson of the world's cold scorn;
To have thee calmly smile to see each chord
Around that heart thrill at thy magic tone;
To have thee listen to the wild, and strain
Of melody that echoes on each string;
To see thee watch the tendrils of my heart
Twining about thine own, till, one by one,
Chilled by the icy coldness of thy heart,
They tremble, quiver, and then burst in twain;
To have thee see them break, then calmly turn
And seek another love. Why is it thus?
Have I no pride that thus I willing bow
A captive? Nay—I will be free—and thou
Shalt learn that woman's pride is stronger 'e'en
Than her most fervent love. I will forget
Thee! Soon the past, like other fevered dreams
Of gladness, with its memories of joy
And sorrow, shall be lost to me forever.
It may seem hard at first, and I may feel
Life is no longer life—deprived of thee!
But still my firm resolve is fixed—I can
Aid will forget thee. Life no doubt will wear
A deeper shade of sadness. No glad birds
Will warble forth their strains of melody
To cheer my heart; no flowers will spring around
My future way, and seldom will be seen
Verdant oases in life's desert waste.
And oh! when once my spirit shall be free,
Never shall man regain the sufferer thou
Hast lost. Love's dream shall pass forever; while
The chaplet of bright blossoms that he wore
Shall hang in memory's gallery of art,
A beautiful adornment, to be looked
Upon, but never worn by woman more.

CEDEAR COTTAGE, IND., March, 1855.

Major Burr Porter, of Newark, N. J., left that city some months since to join the Turkish army in the contest with Russia. The Newark Daily Advertiser of Tuesday contains a letter from J. Porter Brown, Esq., of the U. S. Legation at Constantinople, dated April 20, in which Mr. Brown states that Major Porter is now serving in a regiment of the Sultan's cavalry at Eupatoria. He is now a *Bin-bashi* (Major), though more correctly a Lieutenant-Colonel, for he commands one thousand men. Omar Pacha and Behram Pacha (General Cav-in) spoke of Mr. Brown, at Balaklava, in warm terms of Major Porter, and he is considered one of the bravest and most efficient of the foreigners in the service of the Sultan.

EXTRAVAGANT HABITS—THE EVILS THEY INFLICT ON SOCIETY—BACHELORS AND OLD MAIDS.—The evils of luxury have in all time past furnished themes for the pen of the poets, the philosophers, the historians, and the statesmen of every country where letters and learning have been cherished. Each of these different descriptions of writers have descanted on the vices, luxury, and extravagance in their own particular vein, mental, moral, social, political, and pecuniary, just as the spirit moved them. We do not intend to inflict on our readers a homily on the vice or folly of extravagant living—all that we propose to do is to call the attention of that most excellent, agreeable, and beautiful class of the readers of the Journal, to-wit (as the lawyers say), the old maids, and the young maids, to the serious injury that the luxurious and extravagant habits of fashionable society inflict on them. We hold these to be established and well evidenced truths—that all men want to be rich, and all women want to be married. Now one of the first and perhaps the most prominent evils of extravagant habits in society is that they operate to prevent marriage, by deterring men from incurring the expenses incident to that relation of life. Numbers do and will remain unmarried, from necessity artificially created or gratuitously supposed. Young men are constantly doomed to celibacy, not because a marrying income is unattainable by them, but because prejudice, custom, pride, or laziness forbids them to toil for its attainment. By inheritance, or by public employment, they possess perhaps just sufficient to permit them to enjoy the pleasures and amenities of a city life; miscellaneous society stands them instead of a domestic circle—the club supplies the place of home—vagrant and disreputable amours make them unambitious of becoming, and unfit for husbands, and they prefer to rest satisfied with a pleasant, rather than labor for a happy and worthy existence.

There are others who possess ample incomes, or have businesses that would well provide the means for the support of a wife and family in a moderate and genteel mode of living, but with such a mode they are not content. Their ideas of the style and comfort in which it is necessary to live are formed on a conventional and unreasonable standard. They will not condescend to the fancied indignities, or they cannot endure the trivial privations of economy—they will not ask the woman of their choice to share with them any home less luxurious than she has been accustomed to, and they condemn her to live without love, rather than expose her to live without a carriage. God only knows how many noble creatures have their happiness sacrificed to this miserable blunder—how many pine away existence in desolate and dreary singleness, amid luxuries on which they have been dependant, and splendor which confers no joy, who would thankfully have dwelt in the humblest cottage, and been contented with the simplest dress, and have blest the one and embellished the other, if only the men to whom they have given their hearts had possessed less false pride, and more confidence in woman's love, and sense, and capacity of self-abnegation.

But the fault is not always with the men, for there are oftentimes females who fancy that happiness consists in the possession of wealth, and that money and not the man is what they should consider in selecting a husband. Now as the great majority of young men are poor, it is not astonishing that a large number of these fortune-hunting females, being unable to catch a man with a fortune attached to him, have to live a life of single blessedness and wither away like a lemon in a house where there is neither sugar nor liquors to make it into punch. Many of these victims of vanity bear their sad fate with Christian fortitude and pious resignation and pass into the "sear and yellow" state of old-maidism consoled by religion, amused by pet poll-parrots, poodle-dogs, and tabby-cats, while they find employment for idle hours in making clothes for savages in some far-off land. Another and a less amiable class of these unwedded ladies continue to live in a constant whirl of gaiety, heartless association, and reckless dissipation. Company, cards, and carousals constitute the agencies they employ to dissipate time and drive away thought and reflection; they are ever pursuing pleasure but never find it; they are not happy, because they cannot be contented with what they have, and are constantly striving to obtain what cannot be had.

We do not know that a different state of things will ever prevail, but we would fain hope so. What we desire is to see a higher and more just conception of the materials which really make up the sum of human enjoyment—a sounder estimate of the relative value of earth's possessions—a more frequent habit of diving down through the conventional to the real, and a knowledge of how much refinement, how much comfort and serene content, is compatible with the scantiest means, where there are sense and courage to face the fact and control the fancy. This would reduce the number of spinsters we have spoken of and raise into the condition of honored wives the vast majority of those "beautiful lay nuns" (as they have been called) whose sad, unnatural, objectless existence, whose almost wasted powers of giving and receiving joy, it makes one sad to witness.

The Belle Sheridan arrived last evening, making the trip in five days and twenty hours, and doing very large way business. To her accomplished clerk, Capt. J. M. Martin, we are indebted for papers and copies of the manifest and memorandum. The Belle returns to New Orleans to-morrow evening.

CULTIVATION OF CORN.—We infer from the experience of the past two years and from all that has been written upon the subject that the farmers generally have put their ground in better condition for the corn crop the present season than they have done in former years. They should not, however, rest satisfied with this, but they should bestow increased attention on the cultivation. Even should the growing crop prove a large one, the price of corn for the year to come will be high, and will warrant a day or two of extra labor to each acre with the cultivator, in keeping the ground light and mellow. The earth among summer crops should, if possible, be cultivated as soon after every rain as it is in a suitable condition to work, and before a crust is formed upon the surface. This admits of a free circulation of warmth among the roots of the growing crops, and also of the atmosphere, from which a large amount of moisture is derived during the night by condensation on account of the cooler temperature of the soil; and the growth of the crop is hastened in a wonderful degree and often pushed so far forward toward maturity as to escape in a great degree the effects of the summer drought. Indeed, if the cultivation of corn is properly continued after each succeeding rain and the earth kept constantly light and mellow, a severe drought would but slightly affect the product.

We have no doubt that had the land planted to corn last year been well pulverized in the beginning, and the cultivation thoroughly kept up to the proper period of laying by the crop, the yield in Kentucky would have been more than double what it was. The time for the grain and grass harvest will soon be upon us, and the hire of an extra hand or two in the corn field will be money well invested.

Within a few years there has been a great improvement with some in the method of cultivating corn. Formerly the work was done entirely with the small turning plow, first turning a furrow from the corn and then throwing the earth back, and by repeated plowing earthing up the hills several inches above the level, leaving no suitable pasture for the roots, which would otherwise interlace and fill every inch of space between the rows. Hilling is not essential, as many suppose, for the support of the stalks. Nature has provided braces for them with as much care as she has for the support of the oak; and, if the ground is so prepared and cultivated as to admit of proper drainage, no other support will be necessary. Many farmers agree that in the ordinary way of plowing and tilling the corn for the last time, often as late as when the ears are setting, no injury is done the crop by mutilating and destroying the thousands of rootlets which lie in the way of the plow, but rather that the crop is benefited by it. These rootlets are so many mouths by which the plant is fed and sustained; and to destroy them, when it can be avoided, indicates a want of knowledge of vegetable physiology essential to successful farming. It is true that, after all this violence has been done to the roots of the growing corn, if the soil is sufficiently moist it still continues to grow with vigor. This only shows the importance of keeping a mellow and aerated surface; but this should be obtained by implements better adapted to the purpose than the turning plow. But should the weather prove dry after this last plowing and the destruction of the roots, as is often the case, the blighting effects are too plainly visible—the whole lower leaves of the plants turn yellow and die and it is said the "corn is firing."

Most good farmers remove the front tooth from the two-horse harrow and pass it over the corn rows for the first dressing. The bull-tongue or improved shovel plow with many farmers is now substituted for the turning plow for the first plowing, but Byram's patent open mold-board single and double cultivator plows are to be preferred to these; they most effectually pulverize the surface, leaving the soil after its passage through the open bars of the mold-board immediately in the furrow, only inverting so much of it as may be held together by the roots of the grass and weeds. The weeds are in this way so separated from the soil and exposed upon the surface that they readily die. The one or two last dressings of the corn crop should be performed with the five-teeth cultivator; this leaves the ground in the best possible condition to receive the rains without washing the surface and carrying to the valleys below the richer portions of the soil, as is the case upon the hilling plan as practiced with the turning plow. It is also the best implement to use for seeding the ground to rye at the time of the last working of the corn, and, if not seeded in this way, leaves the surface in better order for the spring plowing.

According to previous estimates, there are about 1,500,000 acres planted to corn in Kentucky. The average yield in past years per acre was about 37 bushels. Crops planted and cultivated for premiums in this and other States have often equaled 75, 100, and even over 150 bushels per acre. Now, if the method of cultivation which we here propose be adopted, the increased product may safely be estimated at 25 per cent. or 10 bushels per acre. This would add to the aggregate crop of Kentucky the present year 15,000,000—an amount which would amply remunerate the farmer for the extra care bestowed and add immensely to the resources of the State.

Mr. Preston, the agent of the Floating Palace, was in this city on Saturday. The Floating Palace will be here in July. It has an entirely new collection of animals, a statue gallery, panoramic views, paintings, and a band of Ethiopian melodists.

AFRAY AND DEATH.—Yesterday afternoon a difficulty occurred in the neighborhood of the Mansion House between John McFarland, an Irishman, and a Frenchman named Kuss, about a skiff, which Kuss and two boys had taken possession of. McFarland assaulted Kuss, and the two then clinched, during which McFarland received several stabs. Kuss then shot McFarland with a gun, breaking three ribs, which caused his death. McFarland is said to have been a quarrelsome and worthless fellow. The coroner held an inquest on his body. Kuss went immediately to the jail and surrendered himself.

The races on Saturday were very fine, though the track was too heavy for good time. For the first race, three-mile heats, there were three entries, viz: Floride, Frankfort, and Perrett. Frankfort was the favorite before starting his backers freely offered odds on him. He won the first heat in 5:57. Perrett was distanced. The second heat was won by Floride, beating Frankfort a few lengths, in 5:57. Floride was now the favorite, and won the third heat with ease in 6:03.

There was a pacing match, one mile and repeat, which was won by Mr. Kidd's horse.

ACCIDENT.—On Saturday a son of Mr. Gary, about four or five years old, while playing on the porch in front of the residence of his parents, on Fifth street, between Green and Walnut, fell off, and the temple of his head struck the iron railing of the fence and entered the brain several inches. He hung in that position until relieved by a gentleman who was close by. The little fellow lingered in the greatest agony until about 11 o'clock yesterday, when death put an end to his sufferings.

MASONIC HALL.—We are gratified, as doubtless the public will also be, to learn that work has been resumed on the building intended for a Masonic Hall, at the corner of Fourth and Jefferson streets, in this city. The work had been suspended for a year or more on this building in consequence of a want of funds, but the needful money being now supplied the building will progress to completion this season.

The river was rising slowly last evening with 5 feet 8 inches water in the canal. The weather since Friday night has been quite cool. The thermometer on Saturday evening stood at 59. The St. Louis papers of Thursday report the Mississippi at that point, as well as all its upper tributaries, on the rise.

The stables of Squire James S. Lyon, near Jackson, Tennessee, were burned on the night of the 21st ult., together with between 20 and 30 horses and mules, and many valuable agricultural implements.

In the list of patents granted from the U. S. Patent-Office for the week ending May 17th is one to L. W. Colver, of Louisville, for Seed Planter. This is the second patent granted to Mr. C. for a similar invention.

We have received from the managers of the Horticultural Exhibition a lot of very fine cherries. We do not know on whose farm they were grown, or we would publish the fact. They are very large, well flavored cherries.

FIRE.—A stable belonging to Mr. Seebold, between Jefferson and Green and Jackson and Hancock streets, was burned down about 1 o'clock yesterday.

[From this morning's Journal.]

BOSTON, June 2.

Orders from Washington designate the 14th of June for launching the steam frigate Merrimac at the Charleston navy yard. Great preparations were being made to celebrate the event. The loss by the fire is estimated at \$60,000, one half of which is covered by insurance.

NEW YORK, June 2.

The steamship North Star, from Havre, arrived to-day with dates of the 19th of May. The St. Louis arrived at Havre on the 19th in a damaged condition. She was injured by a collision with an iceberg. She completed her voyage safely, the damage being above the water-line.

PHILADELPHIA, June 2.

The San Jacinto returns to New York, when Commodore Paulding will assume the command. She will then return to the squadron, to which a first class frigate will be added.

The Jamestown has been ordered to join the African squadron.

NEW YORK, May 31.

The building 49 Ann street, occupied by Jno. F. Trow, printer, &c., and publisher of the N. Y. City Directory, was destroyed by fire last night, together with all the material for the directory in a forward state for publication. The adjoining building occupied by Louis Durr, worker in gold and silver metals, and Morrill, Donald, & Co., dealers in printing materials, were also damaged. The total loss is estimated from \$50,000 to \$100,000, mostly covered by insurance.

Mr. Trow is secured for \$44,000, which will more than cover his loss. The insurance is in numerous offices ranging from \$2,000 to \$5,000.

In the United States commissioner's office yesterday, Geo. Watcher, one of the parties arrested for being engaged in enlisting men for the British army, was discharged for want of evidence, while three others were held for further examination. The case of Miller vs. Schuyler, the Illinois Central Railroad, to recover the value of bonds on plaintiff's claim to certificates for 300 shares of stock at a pro rata subscription. The Supreme Court held Miller was entitled to the bonds, and the Company was liable—judgment for plaintiff \$7,000.

The suit of Emery Matthews versus Messrs. Beach of the Sun newspaper to recover damages for an alleged libel in publishing a police report, some five years ago, was terminated in the superior court this morning by a verdict for the defendants. This case has been before the public in and out of court for five years past and has been anxiously watched as having a very direct influence upon the independence of the press, which is fully sustained by the verdict.

